

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 -41 (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
storing authentication information for a plurality of users;
at an authentication service, receiving digital credential information associated with a first user from a relying party;
verifying the digital credential information using the authentication information;
providing verification information associated with the first user to the relying party; and
providing information from the authentication service to the first user, the information indicative of receiving the digital credential information associated with the first user from the relying party.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, wherein providing information to the first user comprises providing access to an activity log associated with the first user.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein:
the authentication information comprises registration
information indicative of a registration status with a
registration authority[[,]]; and

the method further comprising ~~comprises~~, prior to
providing the verification information to the relying party,
verifying the registration information with the registration
authority.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein:
the authentication information comprises registration
information indicative of a registration status with a
registration authority[[,]] i and

the method further comprising ~~comprises~~ verifying the
registration information with the registration authority.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42,
further comprising:

storing access information associated with the relying
party, the access information including information indicative
of the providing the verification information associated with
the first user; and

providing the access information to the relying party.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein:
the authentication information comprises professional
license status information[[,]] ; and

~~wherein~~ providing verification information to the relying
party comprises providing verification information indicative of
the professional license status to the relying party.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42,
wherein providing verification information to the relying party
comprises providing information indicative of a failure to
authenticate the digital credential information associated with
the first user.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42,
further comprising at least one of the relying party and the
authentication service issuing a challenge in response to
receiving digital credential information associated with the
first user.

50. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-
readable medium embodying information indicative of instructions
that when performed by one or more machines result in operations
comprising:

storing authentication information for a plurality of
users;

at an authentication service, receiving digital credential information associated with a first user from a relying party;

verifying the digital credential information using the authentication information;

providing verification information associated with the first user to the relying party; and

providing information from the authentication service to the first user, the information indicative of receiving the digital credential information associated with the first user from the relying party.

51. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 50, wherein providing information to the first user comprises providing access to an activity log associated with the first user.

52. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein: the authentication information comprises registration information indicative of a registration status with a registration authority[[,]] ; and

the operations further comprising: comprise, prior to providing the verification information to the relying party, verifying the registration information with the registration authority.

53. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein:
the authentication information comprises registration
information indicative of a registration status with a
registration authority[[,]] i and

the operations further ~~comprising~~ comprise verifying the
registration information with the registration authority.

54. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein
the operations further ~~comprising~~ comprise:

storing access information associated with the relying
party, the access information including information indicative
of the providing the verification information associated with
the first user; and

providing the access information to the relying party.

55. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein:
the authentication information comprises professional
license status information[[,]] i and ~~wherein~~

providing verification information to the relying party
comprises providing verification information indicative of the
professional license status to the relying party.

56. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 50, wherein providing verification information to the relying party comprises providing information indicative of a failure to authenticate the digital credential information associated with the first user.

57. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 50, wherein the operations further comprising comprise at least one of the relying party and the authentication service issuing a challenge in response to receiving digital credential information associated with the first user.

58. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:
storage configured to store authentication information for a plurality of users; and
an authentication server configured to:
receive digital credential information associated with a first user from a relying party;
verify the digital credential information using the authentication information;
provide verification information associated with the first user to the relying party; and
provide information to the first user, the information indicative of receiving the digital credential information associated with the first user from the relying party.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication server is configured to provide information to the first user at least by providing access to an activity log associated with the first user.

60. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication information comprises registration information indicative of a registration status with a registration authority, and wherein the authentication server is further configured to:

verify the registration information with the registration authority prior to providing the verification information to the relying party.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication information comprises registration information indicative of a registration status with a registration authority, and wherein the authentication server is further configured to verify the registration information with the registration authority.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication server is further configured to:

store access information associated with the relying party, the access information including information indicative of the

providing the verification information associated with the first user; and

provide the access information to the relying party.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication information comprises professional license status information, and wherein providing verification information to the relying party comprises providing verification information indicative of the professional license status to the relying party.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication server is configured to provide verification information to the relying party at least by providing information indicative of a failure to authenticate the digital credential information associated with the first user.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 58, wherein the authentication server is further configured to issue a challenge in response to receiving digital credential information associated with the first user.